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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/016,001	12/10/2001	Ynjiun P. Wang	T075A	3855

7590

03/28/2002

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EXAMINER

JEANTY, ROMAIN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2163

DATE MAILED: 03/28/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/016,001

Applicant(s)

WANG ET AL.

Examiner

Romain Jeanty

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the corresponding address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 December 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 12/10/2001 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Detailed Action

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

2. Claims 1, 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated over Hudetz et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,978,773).

As per claims 1 and 3, Hudetz discloses:

Providing the customer with a bar code symbol reader (Col. 5, lines 1-5).

Scanning a uniform product code (UPC) bar code symbol (col. 8, lines 38-43); and

Providing an associated table in a database between the UPC symbol data and an Internet web site address affiliated with the product manufacturer (Col. 7, lines 17-28 and Col. 7, lines 64 through Col. 8, line 10).

Providing the associated web site address to a remote computing device of the consumer for allowing the consumer to make a product information inquiry to said web site address (e.g., displaying a web page having a URL for the user to click on to make a product inquiry)(Col. 7, lines 45-57). Since the user in Hudetz makes a request for information, the examiner notes that in order for the manufacturer to response to the user's request, it is inherent that the manufacturer receives the user's IP address (demographic/geographic information). Furthermore, if the user

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orders a product from the manufacturer, it is even more inherent for delivery purposes that the manufacturer must receive more user's demographic/geographic information such as the user's name, address, zip code and payment information and so on.

As per claim 2, Hudetz et al discloses the bar code reader is provided at the user's terminal. Note figure 1.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hudetz et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,978,773) in view of Kaplan (U.S. Patent No. 5,963,916).

As per claim 4, as properly understood, Hudetz et al discloses all of the limitations above but does not explicitly disclose providing targeted e-mails to the consumer for product announcements by the manufacturer. Kaplan on the other hand, discloses sending a product notification to a user. Note column 16, lines 16-26. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify Hudetz by including an e-mail notification as taught by Kaplan. The motivation being to encourage a user to purchase certain products from the manufacturer thereby increasing marketing sales for the manufacturer.

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Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed **Romain Jeanty** whose telephone number is **(703) 308-9585**. The examiner can normally be reached on weekdays from 7:30 am to 6:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner are not successful, the examiner's supervisor, **Tariq R Hafiz** can be reached at **(703) 305-9643**.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or preceding should be directed to the group **receptionist** whose telephone number is **(703)308-3900**.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C 20231

or faxed to:


(703) 746-7238 (After-Final communication)

(703) 746-7239 (Official communication)

(703) 746-7240 (Informal or draft communication labeled ("PROPOSED" or "DRAFT").

Hand delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park 2, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington VA., fourth floor receptionist.

March 21, 2002.


KYLE J. CHOI
PRIMARY EXAMINER
Art Unit 2163